# Native American/Alaskan Native Tobacco Use Statistics

### **ADULTS**

#### Adult Tobacco Use

 Our most recent survey data showed that about 33.0% of Native American/Alaskan Native adults smoke cigarettes.<sup>1</sup>

#### Quit Line

489 people identified themselves as Native American/Alaskan Native called the Quit Line within the past year.<sup>2</sup>

#### YOUTH

### **Current Cigarette Smoking**

Our most recent survey data showed:3

6<sup>th</sup> grade: 4.4% Native Americans/Alaskan Natives, and 2.0% statewide, reported they currently smoke cigarettes.

8<sup>th</sup> grade: 20.0% Native Americans/Alaskan Natives, and 7.8% statewide, reported they currently smoke cigarettes.

10<sup>th</sup> grade: 23.1% Native Americans/Alaskan Natives, and 13.0% statewide, reported they currently smoke cigarettes.

12<sup>th</sup> grade: 37.0% Native Americans/Alaskan Natives, and 19.7% statewide, reported they currently smoke cigarettes.

#### PREGNANT WOMEN

## **Smoking During Pregnancy**

- About 19.9% of pregnant Native American/Alaskan Native women smoke during pregnancy, compared to 10.2% statewide.<sup>4</sup>
- About 390 infants are born each year to Native American/Alaskan Native mothers who smoke during pregnancy.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Data are from the 2005 Department of Health Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). A 'current smoker' reports having smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and also responds "every day" or "some days" to the question "Do you smoke cigarettes now?" This estimate has a ±6.6% margin of error – this means that the "true" population value (percent of current smokers) is most likely somewhere in this range of the reported percentage, but may not be exactly equal to the reported percentage.

- <sup>2</sup> Data include counts of tobacco users, health care provider, and other callers seeking information from the Washington State Tobacco Quit Line between July 01, 2005 and June 31, 2006 who identified themselves as Native American/Alaskan Native.
- <sup>3</sup> Data for Native American/Alaskan Native were collected from youth who participated in the Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) in Fall 2004. The margins of error for estimates for Native Americans/Alaskan Natives are: 6<sup>th</sup> grade (±2.0%), 8<sup>th</sup> grade (±5.1%), 10<sup>th</sup> grade (±6.9%), and 12<sup>th</sup> grade (±9.4%). This means that the "true" population value (percent of current smokers) is somewhere in this range of the reported percentage, but may not be exactly equal to the reported percentage.

Data for Washington were collected as part of a statewide sample of youth for the Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) in Fall 2004. The margins of error for estimates are:  $6^{th}$  grade ( $\pm 0.4\%$ ),  $8^{th}$  grade ( $\pm 1.0\%$ ),  $10^{th}$  grade ( $\pm 1.4\%$ ), and  $12^{th}$  grade ( $\pm 2.2\%$ ).

- <sup>4</sup> Data are from 2004 Washington State Birth Certificates. The margin of error for Native Americans/Alaskan Natives is (±1.8%); the margin of error for Washington State is (±0.2%). Women who indicate that they smoke at all during pregnancy are classified as smokers. Health risk behaviors like smoking during pregnancy may be underreported due to growing social unacceptability of unhealthy behaviors during pregnancy.
- <sup>5</sup> The number of infants born to Native Americans/Alaskan Natives mothers who smoke during pregnancy are calculated using an average of the births to Native American/Alaskan Native mothers who report smoking on the Birth Certificate from 2001-2004. The estimate is rounded to the nearest factor of ten.